

~~wherein:~~

~~R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₆, which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of: H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl, C₂₋₈ alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, halogen, CN, azide, NRR', C₁₋₈ alkylamino, arylamino, C₁₋₈ alkyloxy, aryloxy, COOR, CONRR', C(=O)R, wherein R and R', which are the same or different, are chosen from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, naphthyl-C₁₋₈;~~

~~R₅ is chosen from the group consisting of: H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₁₋₈ alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, COOR, CN, phenyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, C₁₋₈ alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms; C₁₋₈ alkyl saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms-ribose phosphate; X is chosen from the group consisting of: O, C(=O)R, COOR, NO₂, and CONNR', wherein R and R' are as above defined; Q is chosen from the group consisting of single-bond, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl, C₂₋₈ alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, CO, CONR, and NR, where R is as above defined;~~

~~W is chosen from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₈ alkenyl, C₂₋₈ alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₈ alkoxy, C₁₋₈ alkoxy-C₁₋₈ alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl-C₁₋₈ alkyl, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, phenyloxy, biphenyloxy, naphthyoxy, phenylamino, biphenylamino, naphthylamino, C₁₋₈ alkyl-carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, biphenylcarbonyl, naphthylcarbonyl, phenylcarboxyl, biphenylcarboxyl, naphthylcarboxyl, phenylcarboxamide, biphenylcarboxyamide,~~

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naphthylcarboxyamide, halogen, CN, NRR', C₁₋₈ alkylamino, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms wherein the groups alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, can be substituted; n is an integer comprised between 1 and 4; the symbol ---- means that the corresponding bonds a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h and i are single or double bonds, with the proviso that when b or f are a double bond, the group R₅ is absent; their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters.

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2. (amended) Benzo(c)quinolizine compounds of formula (1) according to Claim 1, wherein R₅ = H, C₁₋₈ alkyl-phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, C₁₋₈ alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms; or a C₁₋₈ alkyl-saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms-ribose-phosphate; X = O, COOH; Q = single bond, CO, CONR, NR, wherein R is chosen from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane, phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or aromatic heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, naphthyl-C₁₋₈alkyl; W = H, F, Cl, Br, Me, t-butyl, C₁₋₈alkoxy, 2,5-dimethylhexyl, trifluoromethyl, 2,5-(di-trifluoromethyl)-phenyl, 4-methyloxy-phenyl, phenyl, phenyl-C₁₋₈alkyl, C₁₋₈alkylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyl; n = 1 and 2; R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₆ = H, Me, CN, phenyl, COOR, CONRR', C(=O)R, wherein R and R' are the same or different and are chosen from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₈ alkyl, cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, cyclooctane, norbornane, canphane, adamantane,

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phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, saturated or unsaturated heterocycle containing one or more N atoms, naphthyl-C₁₋₈.

Kindly cancel claims 13-17 and add the following claims:

18. (new) A method of inhibiting a 5 α -reductase enzyme which comprises administering to a host an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

19. (new) A method of treating acne which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

20. (new) A method of treating baldness which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

21. (new) A method of treating prostate cancer which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

22. (new) A method of treating prostatic hypertrophy which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

23. (new) A method of treating hirsutism in women which comprises administering an effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 1.

24. (new) A method of inhibiting steroid 5 α -reductase enzymes in plants which comprises contacting a plant with an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

25. (new) An agricultural composition for regulating plant growth which comprises a compound of claim 1 and a carrier.